

He will be missed by his family and the community at large.

Today, I ask my colleagues to stand with me and honor his life, his accomplishments, and his family.

IN HONOR OF REVEREND DR. E.
THEOPHILUS CAVINESS

HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, October 14, 2011

Mr. KUCINICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in honor of Reverend Dr. E. Theophilus Caviness, the pastor of Greater Abyssinia Baptist Church for 50 years. Rev. Dr. Caviness is being honored by the City of Cleveland as it dedicates Tacoma Avenue from East 105th Street to Parkwood Drive as "Rev. Dr. E. Theophilus Caviness Way."

Born and raised in Marshall, Texas, Rev. Dr. Caviness became aware and involved in the fight against discrimination of the African American population at an early age. He attended Bishop College in Dallas, Texas and Eden Theological Seminary in Webster Groves, Missouri. Before coming to the City of Cleveland, Rev. Dr. Caviness served as the pastor of St. Mark's Baptist Church in Picton, Texas, Mount Nebo Baptist Church in Madison, Illinois and St. Paul Baptist Church in East St. Louis, Missouri. He used his position as a minister and lifetime member of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP) to bring people together to create change during the Civil Rights movement.

In 1961, Rev. Dr. Caviness moved to Cleveland and became the pastor of Greater Abyssinia Baptist Church. He immediately became involved in Cleveland's Civil Rights movement. In conjunction with his pastoral duties, Rev. Dr. Caviness has served on Cleveland's Zoning Board of Appeals, Planning Board of the Glenville Area Council and Sewer Board of Cleveland. Additionally, he served as a Councilman in Cleveland City Council from 1974 to 1980, worked as the executive assistant to former Mayor George Voinovich and served two terms as chair of the Ohio Civil Rights Commission. Rev. Dr. Caviness continues his advocacy work as President of the Southern Christian Leadership Conference Cleveland Chapter, board chair of Community Covenant Oversight Team for the "Closing the Gap" Initiative, and is currently working with Rev. Al Sharpton and the National Action Network.

Because of his dedication and longtime service to the fight against racism, Rev. Dr. Caviness has received an honorary doctorate of divinity degree from Lynchburg Virginia Seminary and an honorary doctorate of law degree from Central State University. He will also be inducted into the International Civil Rights Walk of Fame on January 6, 2012.

Mr. Speaker and colleagues, please join me in honoring Rev. Dr. E. Theophilus Caviness as the City of Cleveland celebrates his tireless work in the Greater Cleveland community and as a leader in the continuing Civil Rights movement.

HONORING THE LIFE OF REV.
EREND FRED SHUTTLESWORTH

HON. STEVE COHEN

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, October 14, 2011

Mr. COHEN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the life of Reverend Fred Shuttlesworth, one of the great, unsung leaders of the Civil Rights movement, and a major figure in the historic fight for justice and equality. Fred Shuttlesworth was born Fred Robinson on March 18, 1922 in Mount Meigs, Alabama. He was raised in Birmingham, Alabama by his mother, Alberta Robinson who married William Nathan Shuttlesworth at which point Fred Robinson took the last name Shuttlesworth.

Fred Shuttlesworth was the eldest of eight siblings. His family survived by sharecropping and making moonshine liquor. In the early 1940s, Fred Shuttlesworth became a truck driver before joining the Baptist Church in 1944. He then studied ministry at Selma University and began preaching at Selma's First Baptist Church. He graduated from Selma in 1951. In 1953, Shuttlesworth became pastor of Bethel Baptist Church in Birmingham. His life as a social activist peaked that following year, when his attention was captured by a newspaper headline announcing that the U.S. Supreme Court had outlawed school segregation in *Brown vs. Board of Education*. "I felt like I was a man, that I had rights," Shuttlesworth said, recalling his reaction.

In 1955, he supported the Montgomery bus boycott, led by Rev. Martin Luther King Jr. Shuttlesworth became a Birmingham activist, joining the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP) in their voter registration efforts. When the state of Alabama essentially outlawed the NAACP in 1956, Shuttlesworth found and led the Alabama Christian Movement for Human Rights to take direct action to end racial segregation.

Reverend Shuttlesworth was no stranger to adverse racial situations and always emerged strong and undefeated. On Christmas night in 1956, Shuttlesworth survived a bomb blast that blew out the walls and floor of his home, destroying his residence. In response to being told by an officer that he should leave town, he replied, "Officer, you're not me. You go back and tell your Klan brethren if God could keep me through this, then I'm here for the duration." The next day he led 200 people onto Birmingham's buses.

In 1957, he undertook integrating Birmingham's schools by attempting to enroll his daughters in an all-white high school. Outraged by his act, Klansmen attacked him with brass knuckles and chains. He miraculously survived without a concussion and said to the doctor, "Doctor, the Lord knew I lived in a hard town, so he gave me a hard head." Dr. Martin Luther Jr. described Shuttlesworth as "the most courageous civil rights fighter in the South."

Later that year, Shuttlesworth joined Dr. King, Ralph Abernathy and Bayard Rustin to launch the Southern Christian Leadership Conference, which became the leading force of the civil rights movement. Shuttlesworth served as the organization's first secretary from 1958 to 1970. He later served briefly as its president in 2004.

During the early 1960s, Shuttlesworth participated in numerous sit-in protests, mobilized

marches, helped Congress on Racial Equality organize its Freedom Rides and had already been arrested more than 30 times in his fight for equality. In 1963, this collaboration culminated in colossal demonstrations in Birmingham to pressure downtown department stores to desegregate. A few days after being hospitalized due to being slammed against a wall by water from a fire hose, the local leaders of Birmingham announced that fitting rooms and lunchroom counters would be desegregated, signs on restrooms and drinking fountains would be removed and that there would be further steps to advance African-American employment. When President Kennedy introduced to Congress legislation that would later become the Civil Rights Act of 1964, he told Shuttlesworth and King, "But for Birmingham, we would not be here today."

In 1966, Rev. Shuttlesworth became pastor of the Greater New Light Baptist Church. In 1988, he founded and served as director of the Shuttlesworth Housing Foundation, an organization that helped low-income families buy their homes. In 2001, President Bill Clinton awarded Rev. Shuttlesworth a Presidential Citizens Medal—the nation's second-highest civilian award—for helping found the SCLC and for his "leadership in the 'non-violent' civil rights movement of the 1950s and 60s, leading efforts to integrate Birmingham, Alabama's schools, buses and recreational facilities."

Reverend Fred Shuttlesworth passed away on Wednesday, October 5, 2011 in Birmingham, Alabama at 89 years of age. Reverend Shuttlesworth is survived by his wife, Sephira Bailey Shuttlesworth, four daughters, Patricia Massengill, Ruby "Ricky" Bester, Carolyn Shuttlesworth and Maria Murdock; a son, Fred Jr.; a stepdaughter, Audrey Wilson; five sisters, Betty Williams, Truzella Brazil, Ernestine Grimes, Iwilder Reid and Eula Mitchell; 14 grandchildren; 20 great-grandchildren; and one great-great-grandchild. He will be remembered for his leadership and commitment to the Civil Rights Movement. His was a life well-lived.

COMMEMORATING THE FIRST AN-
NIVERSARY OF THE KENYAN
CONSTITUTION

HON. BARBARA LEE

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, October 14, 2011

Ms. LEE of California. Mr. Speaker, last August we witnessed a flowering of freedom in Eastern Africa. On August 5, 2010, Kenya endorsed a brand new constitution, which guaranteed all Kenyan citizens the rights to security, housing, food, life, freedom from discrimination and the freedom of expression, among others. I rise today to recognize the recent anniversary of this constitution's adoption, and to congratulate the Republic of Kenya on this remarkable step forward.

Despite being home to the first African woman to win the Nobel Peace Prize—Wangari Maathai, who sadly passed away last month—Kenya had long treated women as second-class citizens. In the past, female candidates for office have had to carry knives and wear extra garments to fend off the possibility of politically-motivated rape.

But the new constitution has dramatically altered the status of women in Kenya. Among the over 40 new reforms is a non-discrimination clause outlawing bias on the basis of sex, pregnancy or marital status. Additionally, women can own and inherit land, and matrimonial property is protected during and after the termination of marriage. Unconstitutional customary laws carried on by tradition are now void.

Women's right have been elevated in the new Kenyan Constitution. But as anyone who lives in a democracy knows, constitutional mechanisms must be matched by meaningful enforcement and constant vigilance to actually achieve their goals.

Kenya is facing many trials at the moment. The drought in the Horn of Africa is threatening the lives of over 13 million people. Food insecurity is affecting 3.75 million people in Kenya, and 4.3 million men, women, and children are in desperate need of humanitarian assistance.

These numbers do not include the influx of refugees from Somalia and neighboring lands. At its peak, Kenya and Ethiopia saw nearly 1,000 people a day arrive at refugee camps to escape the famine in Somalia. Sexual violence against women in these already overcrowded refugee camps is on the rise.

There are no easy solutions to this crisis, and we in the United States must step up and do our part to help our fellow people in need. Nonetheless, in face of these adversities, it is heartening to see Kenya's men and women move forward together, as equals and as partners. By empowering Kenyan women and rejecting gender-based discrimination, the new Kenyan constitution has paved the way for a brighter future for the Kenyan people.

ACKNOWLEDGING CAROLINE
DEGNAN FOR HER COMMUNITY
SERVICE

HON. BRIAN HIGGINS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, October 14, 2011

Mr. HIGGINS. Mr. Speaker, it is with great admiration that I recognize Caroline Degnan for outstanding service to her community.

Throughout her years at the South Buffalo Food Pantry, Mrs. Degnan personified caring and compassion as she selflessly placed the needs of others before her own.

Mrs. Degnan spent more than twenty years as a volunteer for the South Buffalo Food Pantry as well as overseeing the Lovejoy Food Pantry for several years. In March of 2006, she was nominated by the local branch of Catholic Charities for the organization's national Volunteer of the Year Award.

Despite great personal loss and physical setbacks due to multiple illnesses, Caroline's continues to persevere with spirit and faith. In recognition of that perseverance and to give thanks for her countless hours of providing food and friendship to those in need, her family and friends gathered together to honor this special woman on October 15th at St. Agatha's McGuire Hall in South Buffalo, New York.

Mr. Speaker, it is with great pleasure and pride that I acknowledge the example set by Caroline Degnan and join with a grateful com-

munity to extend our deepest appreciation for her exceptional service and generous heart that fuels the betterment of the lives she has touched.

HONORING DR. MARILYN HEINE
FOR BEING NAMED THE 162D
PRESIDENT OF THE PENNSYLVANIA
MEDICAL SOCIETY

HON. MICHAEL G. FITZPATRICK

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, October 14, 2011

Mr. FITZPATRICK. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Dr. Marilyn Heine, of Dresher, PA who has been named the 162d President of the Pennsylvania Medical Society. Dr. Heine has been a member of the Pennsylvania Medical Society for 22 years, and will now lead this organization as it aims to shape health care delivery to assure that the evolving system provides quality and value to patients and the community.

An active member of the medical community in Pennsylvania, Dr. Heine has served as a delegate to the PA Medical Society's House of Delegates and has played an important role in the Pennsylvania Medical Society's Foundation.

Dr. Heine has also served as president of the Medical Society in my home of Bucks County and was recognized YWCA of Bucks County as a Woman Who Makes a Difference. She has dedicated her professional career to the advancement of medicine in her community, and the Pennsylvania Medical Society is fortunate to have her as its incoming president.

Dr. Marilyn Heine has made it her life's work not only to serve her patients in her practice, but also to improve the healthcare industry here in Pennsylvania. Her dedication serves as an example for her fellow healthcare professionals and I congratulate her on her new position.

RECOGNIZING HISPANIC HERITAGE
MONTH

HON. JERRY MCNERNEY

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, October 14, 2011

Mr. MCNERNEY. Mr. Speaker, today I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing Hispanic Heritage Month.

The United States of America's history, culture and vast array of achievements have been shaped by peoples from across the world. Hispanic Heritage Month is an important opportunity to recognize the contributions of our nation's Latino community. California has been uniquely shaped by the contributions of its Hispanic heritage, from the founding of the Missions with their unique art and architecture to the rich cultural diversity of our cuisine, music and art.

One of many important achievements of Hispanic Americans is that of civil rights that affect us all. Civil rights activist, labor leader, and farm worker César Chávez fought for fair treatment, equality, and dignity without the use of violence. César's leadership, faith, and per-

sistence paved the way for many Latinos and non-Latinos who carry on his legacy.

Today, Latino men and women are an integral part of the fabric that keeps our communities and our families strong. Latinos are tireless teachers in schools and brave soldiers who fight to defend our freedom. In the face of adversity, Latinos have risen to the highest levels of success in business, the arts, public service, athletics, and the armed forces.

As we celebrate the contributions of Hispanic Americans, let us all work together to meet the challenges facing our communities so that we can build upon the American Dream for future generations. It is for these reasons I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing Hispanic Heritage Month.

IN RECOGNITION OF COLDWELL
ELEMENTARY SCHOOL RECEIVING
THE 2011 NATIONAL BLUE
RIBBON AWARD

HON. SILVESTRE REYES

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, October 14, 2011

Mr. REYES. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in recognition of the achievements of Coldwell Elementary School. Coldwell was recently honored with the 2011 National Blue Ribbon award from the United States Department of Education for excellence in education.

The National Blue Ribbon School award honors both public and private elementary, middle and high schools where students achieve at high levels and also schools where the achievement gap is narrowing. Since 1982, more than 6,500 of America's schools have received this coveted award.

I want to personally congratulate the teachers, administrators, and staff of Coldwell Elementary for their commitment and dedication to our young students in El Paso. This year only 304 schools nationwide received the award, and they will be honored at a ceremony in Washington, D.C. The Blue Ribbon validates the efforts of these schools in creating a positive and effective learning environment. These schools and their communities have achieved a degree of excellence of which they can justifiably be proud.

Coldwell Elementary School is a fine example of what can be accomplished when parents, teachers and administrators collaborate to prepare our students for a prosperous future. By emphasizing the importance of subjects like math, science and language arts, Coldwell is enabling a new generation of community leaders.

In times of economic uncertainty, we cannot lose sight of the paramount importance of our children's education, and I am honored to represent Coldwell Elementary School.

CELEBRATING THE ACHIEVEMENT
OF PRESIDENT ELLEN SIRLEAF
JOHNSON

HON. JOE WILSON

OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, October 14, 2011

Mr. WILSON of South Carolina. Mr. Speaker, I would like to congratulate the President of